

Remarks

Claims 1-8 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Brinker et al., (US 6,759,847).

Claims 1, 5, and 7 have been amended.

Claims 2, 3, 6 and 8 have been cancelled.

Claim 4 remains in the application unamended.

The Specification stands objected to because the abstract of the disclosure should be on a separate page.

The Specification

The Office Action states that the abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it should be in a separate page and that the abstract provided is that for the corresponding PCT application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is a national entry of PCT application number PCT/IB2004/002175. Because the abstract satisfied the requirements of said international application, Applicants respectfully submit that the abstract should be sufficient for national entry into the US. Accordingly reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification are respectfully requested.

The 102(e) Rejection

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 2 and 3. Claim 1 as amended is directed to an MRI apparatus comprising: a main magnet for generating a main magnetic field in an examination region; a plurality of gradient coils for generating gradient fields within the main field; an RF transmit coil for transmitting RF signals into the examination region and exciting magnetic resonance in a subject disposed therein in accordance with a plurality of imaging parameters, the transmitted RF signals having a SAR associated therewith; and a SAR processor for maintaining the transmitted RF signals below a prescribed SAR level, wherein the SAR processor includes reference SAR data as a function of subject location and the SAR data is derived from an FDTD model having human body data as input.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Office Action has not identified any teaching or suggestion in the prior art of record directed to the SAR processor including reference SAR data as a function of subject location and the SAR data is derived from an FDTD model having human body data as input

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejection of claim 1.

Claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled in light of the amendments to claim 1.

Claim 4 depends from claim 1 and is patentable for at least the reasons set forth above in connection with the patentability of claim 1.

Claims 5 and 7 have been amended to include the limitations of claims 6 and 8, respectively.

The foregoing remarks related to the patentability of claim 1 can be applied mutatis mutandis to claims 5 and 7. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 5 and 7.

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Conclusion

Applicants submit that claims 1, 4, 5 and 7 distinguish patentably and non-obviously over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. An early indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

If any extension of time is required relative to this Amendment A, Applicants hereby petition for such extension. Authorization to charge deposit account 14-1270 for the fees associated therewith or otherwise necessary in connection with the related application is hereby provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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